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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SCA/INSB - ANTHONY RENZULLI, S/WCI - SHAUN COUGHLIN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [CE](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: SRI LANKA -- ENGAGING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

REF: STATE 16163

Drawing on reftel points and background, Embassy Poloff met February 23 with MOFA Southwest Asia Division Principal Deputy Director Aya Yoshida to convey U.S. concerns about the deteriorating situation in Sri Lanka following the January 26 presidential election. Yoshida expressed appreciation for the briefing on U.S. views and said the GOJ was also concerned, citing in particular the arrest of defeated opposition presidential candidate Sarath Fonseka and reported media suppression. Regarding a more detailed GOJ assessment of U.S. views and possible next steps for the international community, Yoshida said that MOFA would discuss the matter and that she would provide poloff any feedback. Embassy will report any further substantive GOJ response.
ROOS